

STATE of MINNESOTA

Proclamation

WHEREAS:

Estuaries are unique, coastal environments that support more life per square

inch than any other ecosystem on Earth, and provide habitat for numerous

species of fish, shellfish, birds, and marine mammals; and

WHEREAS:

Protecting fish habitats and populations also sustains recreational fishing and

the commercial fishing industry in Minnesota, which harvests 3.5 million pounds

of fish annually; and

WHEREAS:

Millions of tourists visit the estuarine areas of Minnesota's North Shore region

annually, bringing more than \$1 billion each year into the economy and

supporting more than 20,000 jobs; and

WHEREAS:

Coastal restoration projects can create more than 30 jobs for each million dollars

invested—twice the rate of comparable projects in the oil, gas, or road

construction industries; and

WHEREAS:

Protecting and restoring Minnesota's estuaries benefits the economy by ensuring

the sustainability of the state's fisheries, creating outdoor recreational

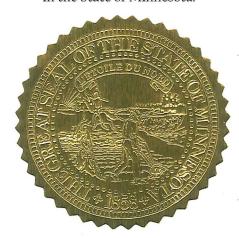
opportunities, reducing the costly impacts of natural disasters, and supporting

jobs which cannot be exported.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, MARK DAYTON, Governor of Minnesota, do hereby proclaim September 29, 2012 as:

ESTUARIES DAY

in the State of Minnesota.



IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of Minnesota to be affixed at the State Capitol this 28th day of September.

GOVERNOR

Mark Retchie

SECRETARY OF STATE